

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Cancelled)  
Claim 2 (Cancelled)  
Claim 3 (Cancelled)  
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Claim 6 (Cancelled)  
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Claim 15 (New)

1. A method of playing a wagering game including a dealer and at least one player comprising the steps of:
  - a. providing at least one standard deck of 52 playing cards plus at least one joker;
  - b. providing a published ranking of winning hands ranked from highest to lowest;
  - c. providing a pre-determined pay scale for winning hands;
  - d. providing a set pre-determined minimum hand ranking for a dealer to achieve as a qualifying hand without which said dealer will lose after all cards are dealt;
  - e. providing a dealer and at least one player;
  - f. commencing the game by having at least one player make a certain initial wager(s) for the first round from the following:
    - (1) a first wager against the dealer, and
    - (2) a separate voluntary wager against a predetermined pay scale,
  - g. dealing at least two cards to each player;
  - h. dealing at least two cards to the dealer;
  - i. said player folding his hand and forfeiting all wagers if said player does not wish to continue play;
  - j. said player proceeding to play the game against the dealer by placing a third support wager in support of the first wager against the dealer;
  - k. ending the game if the dealer fails to achieve said qualifying hand in accordance with said pre-determined minimum hand ranking and said dealer paying the player's said first wager against said dealer, if wagered, and paying the player's said separate voluntary wager against said pre-determined pay scale, if wagered, and having achieved a hand ranking pursuant to said published ranking;
  - l. proceeding with the game if the dealer has achieved said qualifying hand and the player does not fold his hand;
  - m. comparing the player's best two card poker hand, against the dealer's best two card poker hand, and excluding all extra cards dealt to determine the relative ranking there between;
  - n. paying the player's first wager against the dealer and player's third support wager if the players hand outranks the dealers hand;

- o. paying the player's separate voluntary wager against said predetermined pay scale if the player has achieved a rank at least as high as the first ranking from said published ranking;
- p. taking the player's first wager against the dealer and player's third support wager if the dealer's hand outranks the players hand;
- q. taking the player's separate voluntary wager against said predetermined pay scale if the player fails to achieve at least the minimum ranking from said published ranking;
- r. returning the player's first wager against the dealer and third support wager if said player has the same ranking hand as said dealer;
- s. continuing with the game by dealing at least one more round of cards before a shuffle to at least one player that has made a certain wager selected from the following;
  - (1) a first wager against the dealer, and
  - (2) a separate voluntary wager against a pre-determined pay scale;
- t. dealing at least two cards to each player;
- u. dealing at least two cards to the dealer;
- v. said player folding his hand and forfeiting all wagers if said player does not wish to continue play;
- w. said player proceeding to play the game against the dealer by placing a third support wager in support of the first wager against the dealer;
- x. ending the game if the dealer fails to achieve said qualifying hand in accordance with said pre-determined minimum hand ranking and said dealer paying the player's said first wager against said dealer, if wagered, and paying the player's said separate voluntary wager against said pre-determined pay scale, if wagered, and having achieved a hand ranking pursuant to said published ranking;
- y. proceeding with the game if the dealer has achieved said qualifying hand and the player does not fold his hand;
- z. comparing the player's best two card poker hand, against the dealer's best two card poker hand, and excluding all extra cards dealt to determine the relative ranking there between;
- aa. paying the player's first wager against the dealer and player's third support wager if the players hand outranks the dealers hand;
- bb. paying the player's separate voluntary wager against said predetermined pay scale if the player has achieved a rank at least as high as the first ranking from said published ranking;
- cc. taking the player's second wager against the dealer and player's fourth support wager if the dealer's hand outranks the players hand,
- dd. taking the player's second separate voluntary wager against said predetermined pay scale if the player fails to achieve at least the minimum ranking from said published ranking;
- ee. returning the player's first wager against the dealer and third support wager if said player has the same ranking hand as said dealer;

#### **CLAIM 16 (NEW)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 15 above, wherein the game is played with at least one standard deck of 52 cards with no additional jokers used.

**Claim 17 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein there is only one round of cards delivered before the shuffle.

**Claim 18 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein the number of decks used for the game is more than one.

**Claim 19 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein the number of rounds dealt to the players before the shuffle is two or more.

**Claim 20 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein a player is provided an opportunity to make a bad beat wager including the further steps of, Providing a pre-determined published ranking of winning bad beat hands, Permitting the player to place an additional wager against said pre-determined published ranking of winning bad beat hands, Providing that the player may win said additional wager even in the event the player's hand is outranked by the dealer's hand so long as the player's hand appears on the said pre-determined published ranking of winning bad beat hands.

**Claim 21 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein the player may bet on the value of the dealer's hand.

**Claim 22 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein the game may have a designated wild card, produced electronically.

**Claim 23 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein a different version of the game may have the player needing to qualify to continue play.

**Claim 24 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein no participant had to qualify to continue play.

**Claim 25 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein a progressive side wager may be added for achieving certain hands.

**Claim 26 (New)**

The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in claim 1 above, wherein another version of the game may have the dealer dealing three cards to the player and himself and using the best two out of three cards to form a two card poker hand.